

Board of Health Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 10, 2004
8:30 am
First Floor Conference Room
Senior Center

Board Members in Attendance: Dr. Carole Allen (Chair), Mr. Gregory Leonardos

Staff in Attendance: Christine Connolly, Director of Public Health, Denise Boucher, Health Inspector, Diane Coste, Public Health Nurse, Patsy Kramer, Director of Human Services

Minutes of September 29, 2004 meeting were postponed to a later date.

The order of the Agenda was slightly adjusted to accommodate the Town Manager.

The first item was a hearing with Punjab Food and Spices regarding a tobacco violation on September 27, 2004, at which time a compliance check was made and cigarettes were sold to a minor. The minor that participates in the compliance check does not carry an ID card and without an ID, cigarettes should not be sold. In reviewing Punjab's past record, this was the second violation in four years, but because regulations were changed last April, a seven-day suspension of their permit was issued. All in favor.

The second item was the arrival and introduction of the Town Manager, Brian Sullivan, who was promptly thanked for his visit by Dr. Carole Allen. Mr. Sullivan announced the appointment of Dr. Michael Fitzpatrick to the Board, who is expected to be present at the next board meeting.

The next item was the discussion of the flu vaccine shortage and how the Board of Health intended to proceed distributing what was available to the town. It was decided to have a flu clinic at the former Symmes Hospital site for elders 75 and older, anyone under with a chronic health condition would be required to have a doctor's letter. Ads will be placed in the newspaper and flyers distributed in different areas of the town requesting elders to call and register with the Board of Health for an appointment. This will allow the Board of Health to divide applicants into groups and stagger the times of the clinic in order to avoid long lines. Maxim Health Systems had agreed to hold flu clinics at each of the elderly housing units.

The next item was a tobacco violation at Stop & Shop Supermarket where cigarettes were sold to a minor without an ID during a compliance check. The manager of the store stated the individual had been removed from the area of tobacco sales and felt the store should not suffer for the mistake of one employee. Dr. Allen replied that an individual is not the answer to the problem, and it is the corporation's responsibility to train and uphold all store policies. A seven-day suspension of all tobacco sales was issued to the store. All in favor.

A quick update on 60 Bow St property: - a letter was sent to the owner giving her 30 days from the receipt of the letter to clear out the basement. Complaints have been received by the Board of Health from town residents regarding the condition of the interior of the home. In 1999, there was a fire at the property and the Fire Department had a difficult time putting out the fire due to the excessive amount of debris in the basement. Christine Connolly will inspect the basement

after the 30 days has passed, and if it is not cleared out, Christine will call Ms. Lingley to a public hearing with the Board. The owner of 60 Bow St will most likely be in attendance at the next Board Meeting if she hasn't cleaned up the debris.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 am.

The next Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 8, 2004.